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GENERAL

1. US views concerning UN impasse on Eritrea--US Ambassador Jessup in New York has expressed deep concern over the developing situation in the UN concerning Eritrea, indicating his belief that the "unreasonable attitude" of the Italians is blocking any solution, particularly because of the Italian grip on the Latin American delegations. In transmitting Jessup's view to US Embassy Rome, the Department of State has requested that strongest representations be immediately made to Italian Foreign Minister Sforza if the Embassy judges there is any possibility of changing the Italian attitude. The Embassy is to point out that UN failure to agree on Eritrea would endanger prospects of any Somali and Libyan solution, thus greatly decreasing chances of achieving any satisfaction for Italy.
2. US Greek aid policy not changed--The Department of State has informed US Embassy Athens that Secretary Acheson's recent press statement regarding reduction of the Greek armed forces does not represent any change in US policy inasmuch as the US had always looked for such a reduction when guerrilla operations had ceased. The Department adds that the US does not intend to take hasty or drastic action without prior consultation with the Greek Government, but will nevertheless press vigorously for the elimination this year, as originally planned, of the National Defense Corps of 50,000 men.

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